CITY OF SAN DIEGO MEMORANDUM

DATE:

January 28, 2004

TO:

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members/

via P. Lamont Ewell, Assistant City Manage

FROM:

William Lansdowne, Chief of Police

SUBJECT:

Medicinal Marijuana Enforcement with Federal Authorities

The San Diego Police Department has several investigators assigned to various federal law enforcement task forces. These investigators operate under the direction and jurisdiction of the federal agency responsible for the task force. Department personnel including those who are assigned to task forces will not knowingly participate in any federal operation or investigation that is in conflict with our established policies and procedures concerning medicinal marijuana.

Our current procedure protects the rights of qualified patients and primary caregivers to have access to legal amounts of marijuana. These procedures are consistent with California law and the law enforcement guidelines that were recently adopted by the San Diego City Council. Because medicinal marijuana is in conflict with federal law, any enforcement action or investigations concerning medicinal marijuana by Department personnel, will be conducted independently and without the assistance or participation of federal authorities.

Sincerely,

William Lansdowne

Chief of Police

WL/cs

FILE: 5110